

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently Amended) A method for connecting one of several first items to one of several second items, wherein the first items and the second items are connected to a cross-connect including switching columns, switching rows, addressing columns, addressing rows and fuse-relays; said method comprising the steps of:

selecting a second item to which a selected first item is to be connected;

addressing an addressing column and an addressing row in the cross-connect; and

transmitting a high current through said addressing row and addressing column sufficient to blow a fuse in one of the fuse-relays whereby a connection is caused to be made or broken between a switching row and a switching column, thereby connecting the selected first item with the selected second item;

wherein the first items are terminals and the second items are xDSL modems.

53. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 52, wherein the cross-connect further includes additional switching rows, and a connection is caused to be made or broken between a switching row and an additional switching row when the fuse is blown.

54. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 52, further comprising the step of selecting the second item where the rest of the first items able to connect to said second item either already are connected to another second item or have the highest possibility to be connected to another second item.

55-68. (Cancelled)